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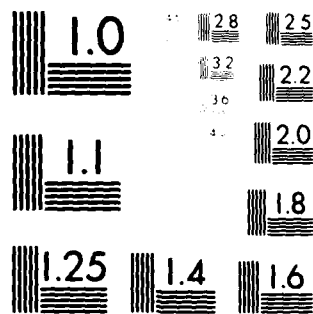
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MISERS BLUFF ELECTROMAGNETIC PROPAGATION EXPERIMENTS

Volume III – Preliminary Results of the UHF-EHF
Radar-Scattering and Coherent-Transmission Experiments

Alan A. Burns
SRI International
333 Ravenswood Avenue
Menlo Park, California 94025

1 October 1979

Topical Report for Period 1 October 1978–31 March 1979

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17. KEY WORDS (Continue on reverse side if necessary and identify by block number) MISERS BLUFF Nuclear Weapons Effects Dust Effects Electromagnetic Propagation Millimeter Waves		
18. ABSTRACT (Continue on reverse side if necessary and identify by block number) SRI International fielded four electromagnetic propagation experiments during the MISERS BLUFF II high explosive tests. Two of the four experiments are discussed here, selected preliminary results are presented, and some tentative conclusions drawn. The UHF-EHF Coherent-Transmission Experiment measured the amplitude and phase changes suffered by a number of phase-coherent CW signals transmitted through a volume of space above ground zero. The signals experi- enced phase retardations and absorption due to the mass of soil injected into		

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the signal paths, and further extinction due to scattering loss from the dust particles. Diffractive and refractive propagation effects also occurred. The SHF/EHF-Scattering Experiment used a four-frequency radar system to measure backscatter from and transmission losses through the dust clouds in the 10-GHz to 100-GHz range. Radar effects of dust clouds were measured, and data were collected from which dust densities and particle-size distributions can be inferred. A great deal of internal structure was evident in the MBII-2 dust cloud.

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PREFACE

The material comprising this topical report is virtually the same as that to be published in the proceedings of the MISERS BLUFF Data-Review Meeting, held in Albuquerque, NM,, in March 1979. Because of the interest in our measurements, we have decided to publish these preliminary results as a separate entity.

Under the direction of Mr. E. E. Martin, the Georgia Institute of Technology Engineering Experiment Station provided the radars and operated them for the SHF/EHF-Scattering Experiment. They have also done the quick-look data reduction. Many of their results have been incorporated into this report.

The SHF/EHF-scattering experiment was jointly sponsored by the Defense Nuclear Agency, the U.S. Army Ballistic Missile Defense Advanced Technology Center, and the U.S. Army Ballistic Missile Defense Systems Command.

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I INTRODUCTION

Under the sponsorship of the Defense Nuclear Agency, the U.S. Army Ballistic Missile Defense Advanced Technology Center and Systems Command, and the U.S. Air Force Space and Missile Systems Organization, SRI International fielded a series of electromagnetic propagation experiments during the MISERS BLUFF II high explosive (HE) tests. These experiments were carefully designed to accurately measure the effects of the large dust clouds lofted by the detonations on signals ranging in wavelength from 100 m (3 MHz) to 0.53 μ m (green light). All of the experiments were intended to collect data that would be useful for nuclear-code validation and for direct extrapolation into the nuclear environment. We will discuss two of the four experiments: the UHF-EHF Coherent-Transmission Experiment, and the SHF/EHF-Scattering (radar) Experiment. The laser and MF experiments are described elsewhere.^{1,2*}

Both MISERS BLUFF II tests took place at the Planet Ranch test site on the dry bed of the Bill Williams River near Lake Havasu City, Arizona. The first test, MISERS BLUFF II-1 (MBII-1), which was a 120-ton ammonium nitrate and fuel oil (ANFO) detonation, took place at 1300 MST on 28 June 1978. The second test, MBII-2, consisted of the simultaneous detonation of six such 120-ton ANFO charges uniformly spaced on the periphery of a 100-m-radius circle. This test took place at 1100 MST on 30 August 1978. Although the primary objective of the MBII tests was the study of ground motions in a multiple-burst environment in support of the MX program, these tests provided a good opportunity to measure dust effects as well. Our experiments were added and were conducted on a noninterference basis.

However, as we have pointed out before, in connection with the DICE THROW tests,^{3,4} the capped-cylinder ANFO charge configuration does not

* All references are listed at the end of the report.

lead to a good simulation of the nuclear environment. Hydrodynamic-code calculations, which are consistent with observations,⁴ predict a "reverse" vortex at the beginning, with a downward flow in the center of the dust cloud. This effect and the rather low flow-field velocities in general lead to rapid fallout, particularly of the larger particles. Because the large particles dominate the dust-cloud effects,⁴ the enhanced fallout of the large particles leads to an early cessation of strong effects. Thus, direct extrapolation from the single-capped cylinder ANFO configuration to the nuclear environment can lead to an underestimation of dust effects and, particularly, of their duration. Since very little is known about the flow fields of the multiple-charge MBII-2 test, extrapolation may be even more risky. Nevertheless, these experiments have provided the best data, so far, concerning the effects of large, high-density dust clouds on electromagnetic propagation.

Although all four experiments are interrelated, the two on which we will focus were related most closely, in that they used very nearly the same part of the electromagnetic spectrum. Thus, the interactions of the radio-wave energy with the matter in the clouds were similar or different aspects of the same phenomenon. For example, the transmission and absorption effects result from the bulk forward-scattering effects of many particles; scattering loss and backscatter strength are also closely related. These two experiments, therefore, measured different aspects of the same underlying phenomenon and together can provide greater understanding than the sum of each done separately. Although the analysis of the data has only recently begun, preliminary results do show a high degree of consistence between the two experiments.

Figure 1 is a map showing the locations of the various components of these experiments in relation to ground zeros. The two transmitters for the transmission experiment were located on a ridge about 1 km south of ground zero. Because the line of sight to the receiver had to pass above ground zero, for MBII-2 the receiver was moved nearly 3 km east of its MBII-1 location. A "phase-repeater" station, placed at the Planet Ranch gate on the road north, provided a means for relaying a reference signal from the transmitter to the receiver along a path unaffected by

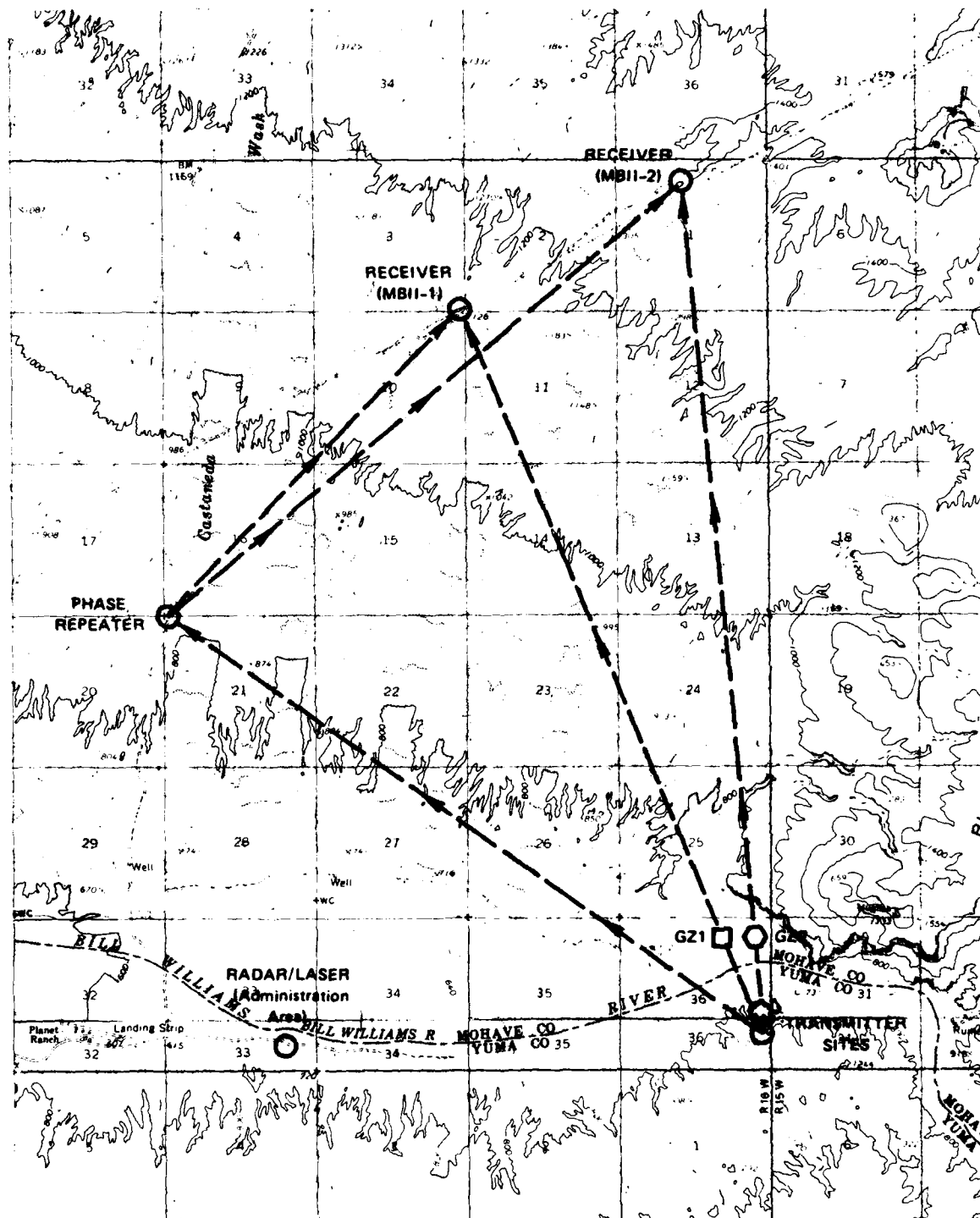


FIGURE 1 POSITIONS OF MISERS BLUFF UHF-EHF EM PROPAGATION EXPERIMENT ELEMENTS

the detonations. Unfortunately, the best place to put the radar system (and the laser system, too) turned out to be the same location chosen for the administration area. It was necessary to overcome problems caused by dust raised by traffic and by electromagnetic interference from nearby communications transmitters. The difficult terrain precluded finding a better location. We also fielded extensive photographic coverage (primarily in the form of boresight cameras) in support of these experiments.

II THE UHF-EHF-COHERENT-TRANSMISSION EXPERIMENT

The UHF-EHF-Coherent-Transmission Experiment measured amplitude and phase changes produced by the dust clouds. When all the dust particles are much smaller in circumference than the radio wavelength, theory predicts that the phase shifts and the absorption component of extinction of the electromagnetic energy are independent of the particle-size distribution. Hence, the observed phase shift is proportional to the integrated dust density through the cloud, if distortions from propagation effects such as diffraction are not serious. On the other hand, the scattering-loss contribution to extinction is very sensitive to the particle-size distribution. Without some independent information, such as the amount of absorption per unit phase shift or the amount of scattering, the two extinction components cannot be separated.

For the MISERS BLUFF data, we have three ways to estimate the relative contributions of scattering loss and absorption to attenuation. First, soil samples were collected and are presently being tested in the laboratory to determine their ratios of absorption to phase shift. Second, the wavelength dependence of attenuation is used to estimate the relative contributions of absorption and scattering loss. Finally, the SHF/EHF-Scattering Experiment measures backscattering directly, from which total scattering is estimated. Because none is perfect, three methods will be used to gain a consistent explanation.

The third method was not available for a very similar set of measurements made during the DICE THROW Main Event.³ These MISERS BLUFF measurements used essentially the same equipment (various modifications were made) as that for DICE THROW. The main differences were (1) the addition of millimeter-wavelength capability, (2) the size of the antennas, and (3) the locations of receivers and transmitters in relation to the ground zeros.

For MISERS BLUFF, the main transmitter was placed as high as practicable on a ridge to the south of the ground zeros and was not moved after MBII-1. The secondary transmitter was placed as low as possible on the ridge while providing a line of sight to the receiver. It was necessary to relocate the secondary transmitter after MBII-1 in order to put it on the same radial as the main transmitter from the MBII-2 ground zero. The receiver used a central antenna structure and two outriggers located about 100 m roughly east and west of the central structure. A van near the central structure housed most of the receiving equipment and the data-acquisition and recording system.

The combination of two transmitters and three receiving locations provided six transmission paths through a volume in the range between about 70 m and 110 m above the ground zeros. The azimuthally-spread paths passed 15 m east and west of the central signal path in the vicinity of ground zero. Table 1 lists the various signals transmitted along those lines of sight and their characteristics. The largest number of the signals were transmitted between the main transmitter and the main receiver along paths passing directly above the ground zeros. All the signals were coherent with one another; both amplitude and phase changes could be measured accurately.

Both digital and analog data-recording methods were used. The primary data-acquisition system was digital, whereby the quadrature components of each of the signals were detected in a 150-Hz bandwidth and digitized at 500 Hz. Redundant digital tape recorders were used to reduce the effect of any malfunction. In addition, as a backup, the 50-kHz IF signals were recorded using an analog machine. Some problems with the digitizing system were encountered on both events. In both cases the problems resulted in the insertion of extraneous symbols into the digital data stream. However, the offending quantities were easily identified and have been deleted automatically with no loss of data.

One of our major goals was to extend these measurements, which were first made on the DICE THROW main event, to the millimeter-wave regime. Thus, a 35-GHz and a 95-GHz link were added for MISERS BLUFF II.

Table 1

UHF-EHF-COHERENT-TRANSMISSION EXPERIMENT LINKS

Identifier	Path*	Band	Frequency (MHz)
0-UR	MT-PR	UHF	413
0-LR	PR-MR	L	1,239
1-S	MT-MR	S	2,891
2-XR	ST-MR	X	10,188
3-X	MT-MR	X	8,915
4-W	MT-MR	W	95,937
5-UR	ST-EO, MR,WO†	UHF	424
6-UC	MT-MR	UHF	413
7-K	MT-MR	K _a	33,536
8-L	MT-MR	L	1,274
9-U2	MT-EO	UHF	413
10-X2	MT-EO	X	8,915
11-U3	MT-WO	UHF	413
12-X3	MT-WO	X	8,915

* MT = Main transmitter
 ST = Secondary transmitter
 MR = Main receiver
 EO = East outrigger
 WO = West outrigger
 PR = Phase repeater.

† Time-multiplexed.

State-of-the-art devices were required for those links, however, and they proved to be unreliable in the field environment. (The 35-GHz devices were returned several times to the manufacturer for reworking, and the 95-GHz units were delivered several months late, only a few days before MBII.)* As a result, no millimeter-wavelength dust-cloud effects

* During MBII-1, the 35-GHz transmitter lost internal phase-lock during shock-wave passage shortly after detonation.

data were collected; turbulence effects at 35 GHz were seen behind the shockwave on MBII-1. Although the rest of this experiment was very successful, the loss of data in this very interesting wavelength range was very disappointing.

In-depth data analysis has just begun and only preliminary results are available now. Figures 2(a) and (b) show the raw 8.9-GHz Path-2 amplitude and phase results for MBII-1 and -2. The much stronger effects during MBII-2 result from the much greater mass of material lofted by the larger detonation (the MBII-1 crater-volume estimate was 1600 m^3 , while the sum of the MBII-2 crater-volumes was $10,200 \text{ m}^3$.* Although the phase shifts are proportional for nearly all conditions to the integrated dust-mass density along the signal paths, the phase data shown in Figure 2 cannot be interpreted properly in terms of average dust density until they are compared to the photographic records. It is reasonable, however, that the MBII-2 phase fluctuations are about twice those from MBII-1 [note the scale change between Figures 2(a) and 2(b)].

Figure 3 shows the amplitude fluctuations measured on the upper azimuthally separated signal paths at 8.9 GHz, which may be further compared with the central path data of Figure 2(b). There is a progression from least to most severe effects as the paths shift toward the west, which produced about 10 dB of general attenuation along with the severe fading seen on all three paths. Because these paths were only laterally separated by about 15 m above ground zero, there was obviously a great deal of inhomogeneity over short distances within the dust cloud at these early times.

Signal perturbations measured during the MISERS BLUFF II tests were considerably weaker than those seen during DICE THROW.³ Part of the difference can be attributed to the higher-altitude signal paths above ground zero on the later events. The smallness of the MBII-1 charge also contributed to this difference. One important effect seen during DICE THROW did not occur during MISERS BLUFF; i.e., the complete loss of the coherent

* Data furnished by Capt. R. J. Davis, FCDNA.

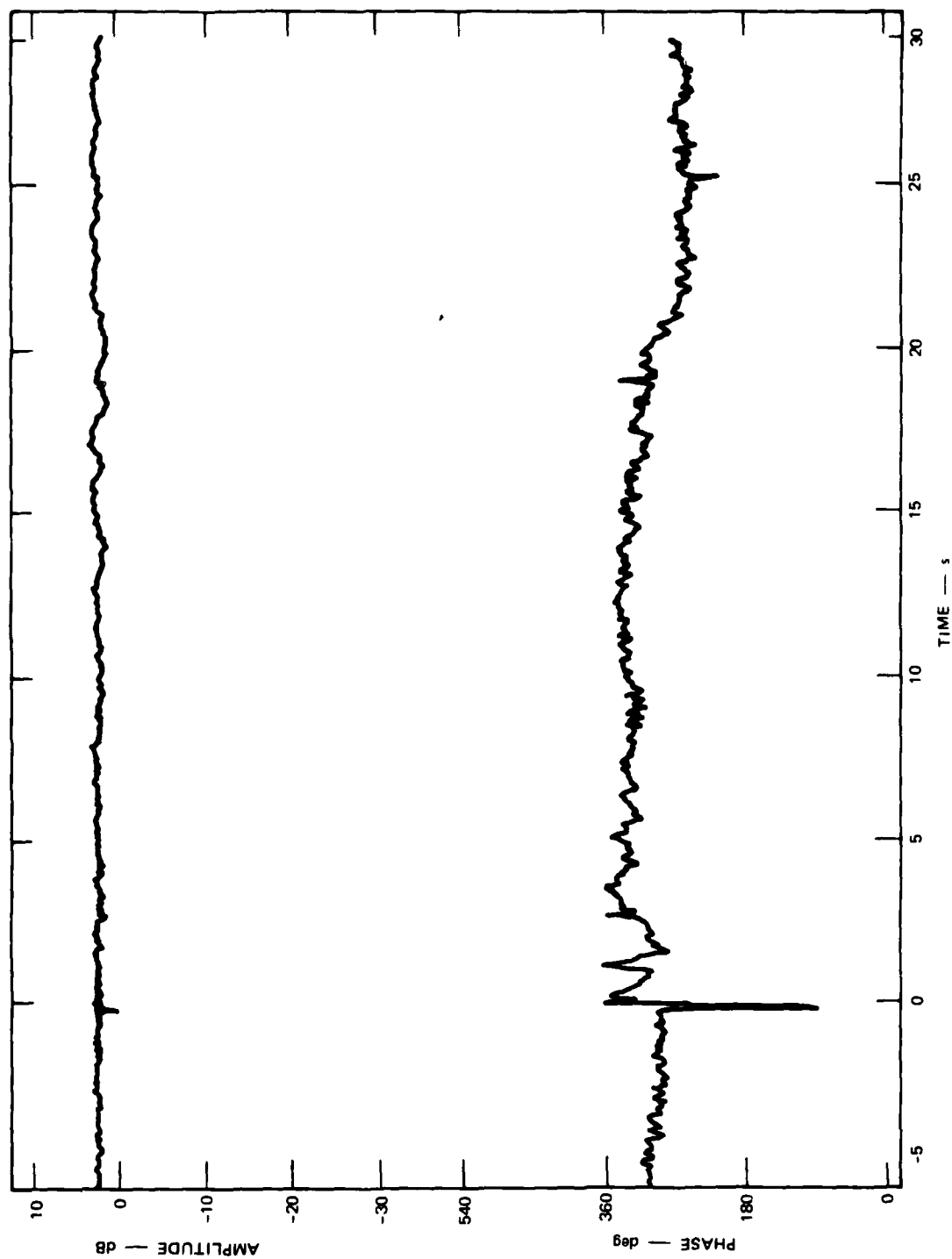


FIGURE 2(a) MBII-1 UHF-EHF TRANSMISSION EXPERIMENT, PATH 2--8.9-GHz AMPLITUDE AND PHASE RESULTS

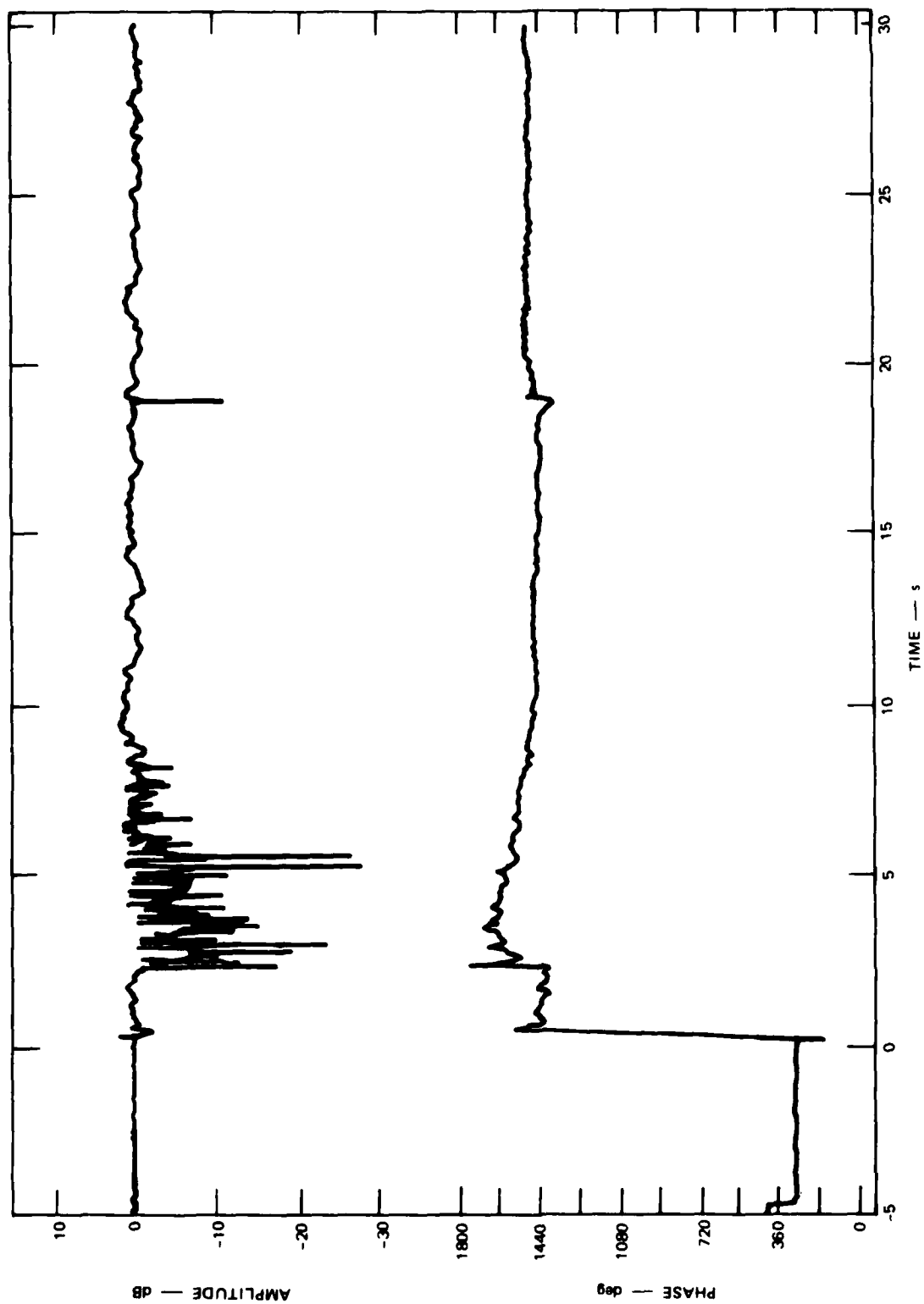


FIGURE 2(b) MBII-2 UHF-EHF TRANSMISSION EXPERIMENT, PATH 2--8.9-GHz AMPLITUDE AND PHASE RESULTS

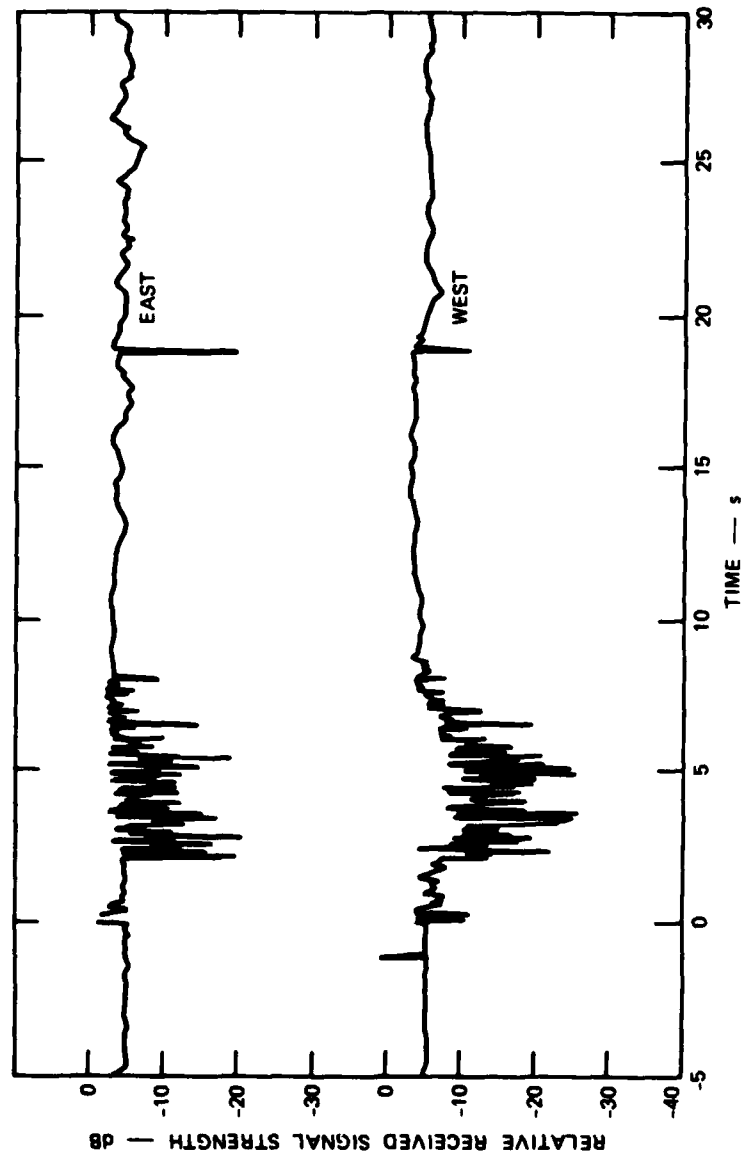


FIGURE 3 MBII-2 UHF-EHF TRANSMISSION EXPERIMENT--8.9-GHz AMPLITUDE FLUCTUATIONS
FROM AZIMUTHALLY SEPARATED SIGNAL PATHS

signal accompanied by strong attenuation and apparent saturation of maximum attenuation. This has been interpreted as caused by the sudden transition to a multiple-scattering condition when many large particles were present. Apparently, that condition was not encountered during MISERS BLUFF, possibly because of a scarcity of large particles.

Figure 4 is a comparison of the amplitude effects observed at different wavelengths on the main signal path. As expected, the fluctuations were more severe at the shorter wavelengths. Although the duration of the most severe effects covered almost the same time intervals, both the amplitude and phase fluctuations measured during MBII-2 were weaker than those seen during the DICE THROW Main Event, in spite of the much larger crater volume and presumably greater mass of material lofted for the later event. (The sum of the MBII-2 apparent crater volumes* was $1.0 \times 10^4 \text{ m}^3$ versus $4.6 \times 10^3 \text{ m}^3$ for the DICE THROW Main Event crater.) Most of the difference is probably due to the altitude difference of the signal paths above ground zero (about 6 m for DT compared to 100 m for MBII-2). Other factors leading to important differences may be variations in the particle-size distributions and the electromagnetic properties of the soil. (We are currently measuring those properties of several MB soil samples collected from the ground-zero area before and after the events.) The amount of moisture present also has a strong effect on the amount of absorption by a dust cloud.

The first steps in the data-processing and interpretation effort currently under way are to calibrate the data carefully and to remove the artifacts that can be seen at various times in Figures 2, 3, and 4, particularly in the phase data (the perturbations at about $T + 19 \text{ s}$ were caused by the shock wave hitting the receiving system). The next steps are to compare and correlate the results with other data and information, including photographic, radar, and optical data, and the results of the

* Data furnished by Capt. R. J. Davis, FCDNA.

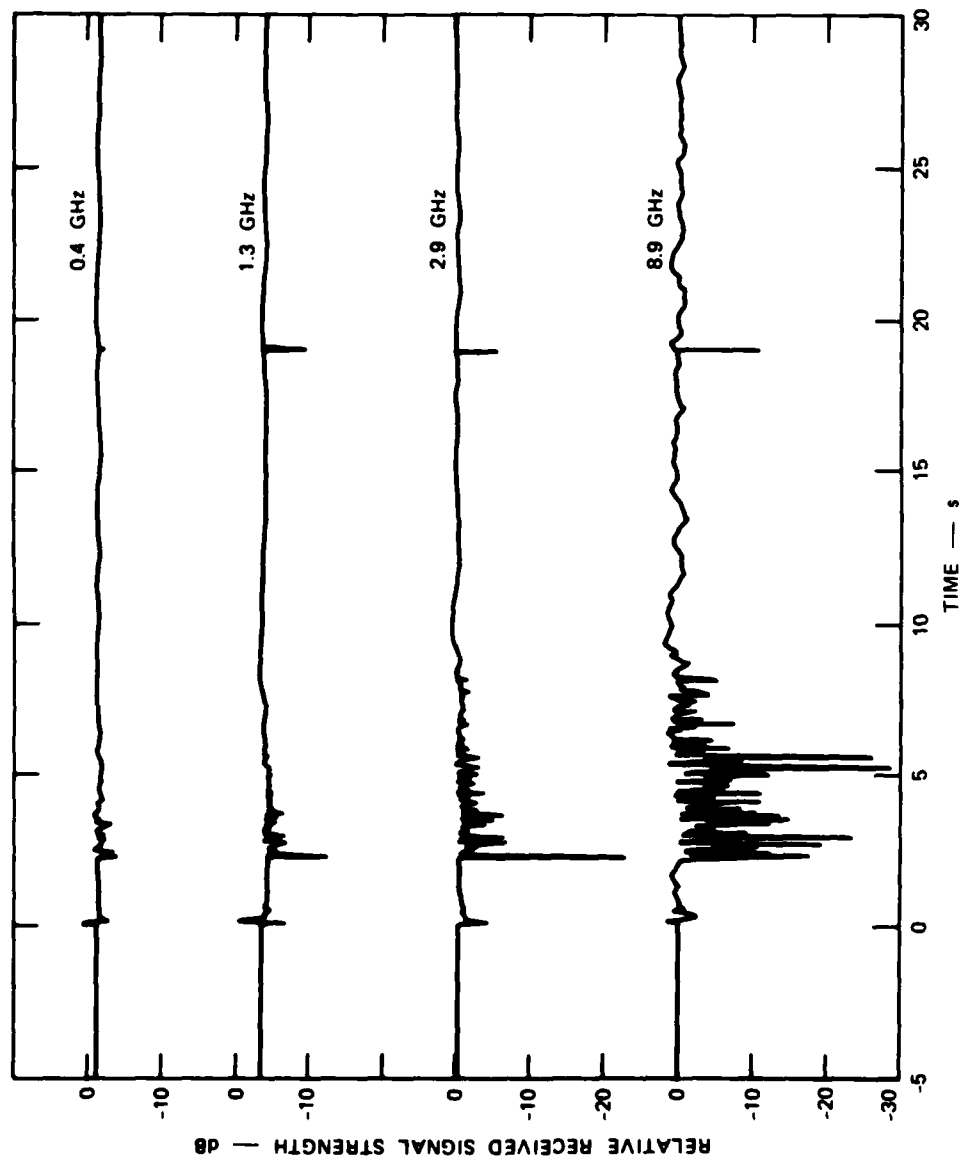


FIGURE 4 MBII-2 UHF-EHF TRANSMISSION EXPERIMENT--MAIN SIGNAL PATH AMPLITUDE FLUCTUATIONS

soil sample electromagnetic properties measurements.* Including the results from DICE THROW Main Event, we now believe that we have sufficient experimental measurements to characterize the problem of propagation through dust clouds in the 0.4-GHz-to-10-GHz range. By extending the soil sample measurements to millimeter wavelengths, we expect to gain enough knowledge to make reasonable extrapolations beyond 10 GHz possible, even though we have very little direct experimental data in that range.

* The first results from the electromagnetic properties measurements indicate that this soil was particularly lossy. Loss tangents as high as 0.14 have been measured in the 1-GHz to 18-GHz interval.

III SHF/EHF-SCATTERING EXPERIMENT

In contrast to those of UHF-EHF-Coherent-Transmission Experiment, SHF/EHF-Scattering Experiment measurements were expected to be very sensitive to the particle-size distribution. Indeed, one of our main goals was to measure the dependence of the particle-size distribution function of time and position. The other principal objectives were the measurements of the effects of large-scale explosively-produced dust clouds on millimeter radar systems and measurements of the mass density in the clouds. These data are valuable for extrapolation into the much more severe nuclear environment and for verifying methods to predict effects in the nuclear environment.

Physically, this experiment consisted of a four-frequency radar system and a data-acquisition and control system. Table 2 lists the parameters of the radar system, which was provided, installed, and operated by the Engineering Experiment Station of the Georgia Institute of Technology under a subcontract to SRI International. Unfortunately, the 95-GHz radar was at least 20 dB less sensitive than was planned, primarily because of low power output and the need for a wide-bandwidth IF system. The 70-GHz radar was included principally as a backup. The four antennas were scaled in size to provide nearly equal beamwidths and were mounted on the same pedestal. Because all four radars used the same pulse width and the antennas were boresighted together, nearly the same volume in the dust cloud provided the echoes. Although this approach carried a penalty of reduced sensitivity at the shorter wavelengths, it removed uncertainties that would have resulted from dissimilar scattering volumes.

A minicomputer/microprocessor system constructed by SRI International controlled the pedestal and did the real-time digitization of the echoes. This system was very flexible, and changes in antenna scan-pattern parameters and range-gate positions and sizes could be made very rapidly.

Table 2

MBII-2 RADAR PARAMETERS

Parameter	Radar			
	1	2	3	4
Frequency (GHz)	9.375	35	69.7	94.5
Antenna				
Size (ft)	10	3	1.5	
Beamwidth E plane	0.78°	0.70°	0.70°	0.70°
Beamwidth H plane	0.70°	0.62°	0.65°	0.66°
Isolation H/V (dB)	40	40	40	40
Gain (dB)	47	48	48	46
Polarization	Dual H/V	Dual H/V	Dual H/V	Dual H/V
Transmitter	Magnetron	Magnetron	Magnetron	EIO
Type	2J42	M5123	BL246	VITB 2443
Power output (kW)	6.2	5.9	0.8	0.8
Pulse width (ns)	250	250	250	250
PRF (Hz)	1000	1000	1000	1000
Receiver				
Mixer	Balanced	Balanced	Single	Single
MDS (dBm)	-93	-90	-63	<-59
Bandwidth (MHz)	12	12	80	80
Dynamic range (dB)	70	70	50	70
Detection	Log	Log	Log	Log

Two independent range gates were provided. The first gate was used on cloud echoes, while the second gate was set at the range of a corner reflector placed on top of the mesa behind ground zero. Another corner reflector was placed lower on the mesa within the span of the first range gate. Echoes from the reflectors and from the mesa itself allowed measurements of two-way extinction through the clouds. The values of observed extinction will be compared with the transmission-experiment results and will be used for compensation for the attenuation of echoes from regions of the clouds most distant from the radar.

In this brief report we will concentrate on the MBII-2 measurements. Figure 5 shows the pre-event 9.3-GHz and 35-GHz radar echoes (only the expected, horizontally polarized echoes will be presented here).^{*} Before $T = 0$, the radar beams were pointed just above ground zero. Echoes from a low peninsula jutting into the river bed extend from 4.2 km to 4.4 km and those from the mesa beyond ground zero start at 5.2 km; the second range gate extended from 6.0 km to 6.3 km. Neither corner reflector was in the beams at that time.

The radar beams were not moved until about $T + 7$ s (there was a small amount of jitter due to wind loading). Figure 6 shows the 9.3-GHz and 35-GHz echoes at $T + 4$ s, which filled the space from 4.6 km to 5.2 km, where the mesa echoes began. Also shown are the pre-event peak echo strength from the mesa. While the 9.3-GHz echoes are practically unchanged the 35-GHz echoes appear to have been attenuated by about 10 dB (two-way).

By $T + 8$ s (Figure 7), the cloud echoes had a very pronounced structure, which is undoubtedly because of the manner in which the six-charge MBII-2 array was viewed (in pairs) from the radar. It is noteworthy that a two-orders-of-magnitude change in the 35-GHz echo strength (and, roughly, of dust density) occurred between adjacent 37.5-m range cells. Note also that the echo strength has decreased significantly.

* Data reduction is being done by the Georgia Institute of Technology under an SRI subcontract.

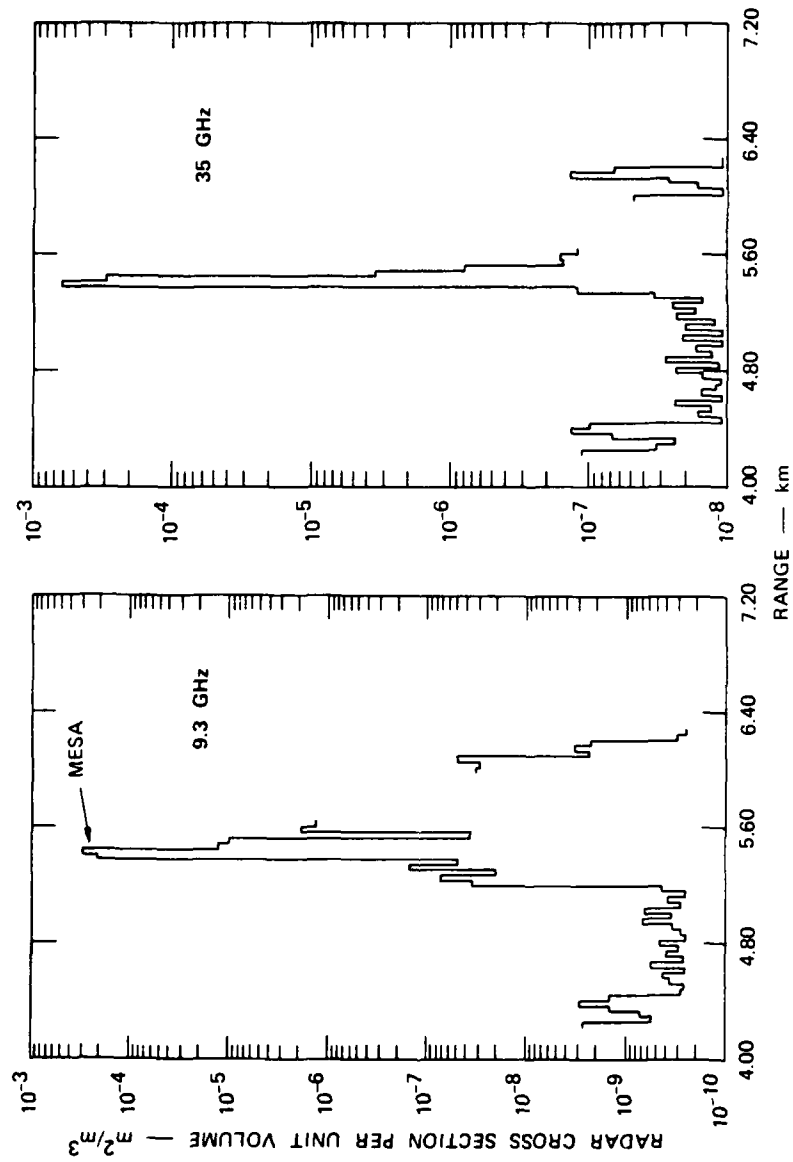


FIGURE 5 MBII-2 RADAR ECHOES AT 9.3 AND 35 GHz AT T-10 δ -AZIMUTH $\approx 73.8^\circ$,
ELEVATION $\approx 0.4^\circ$

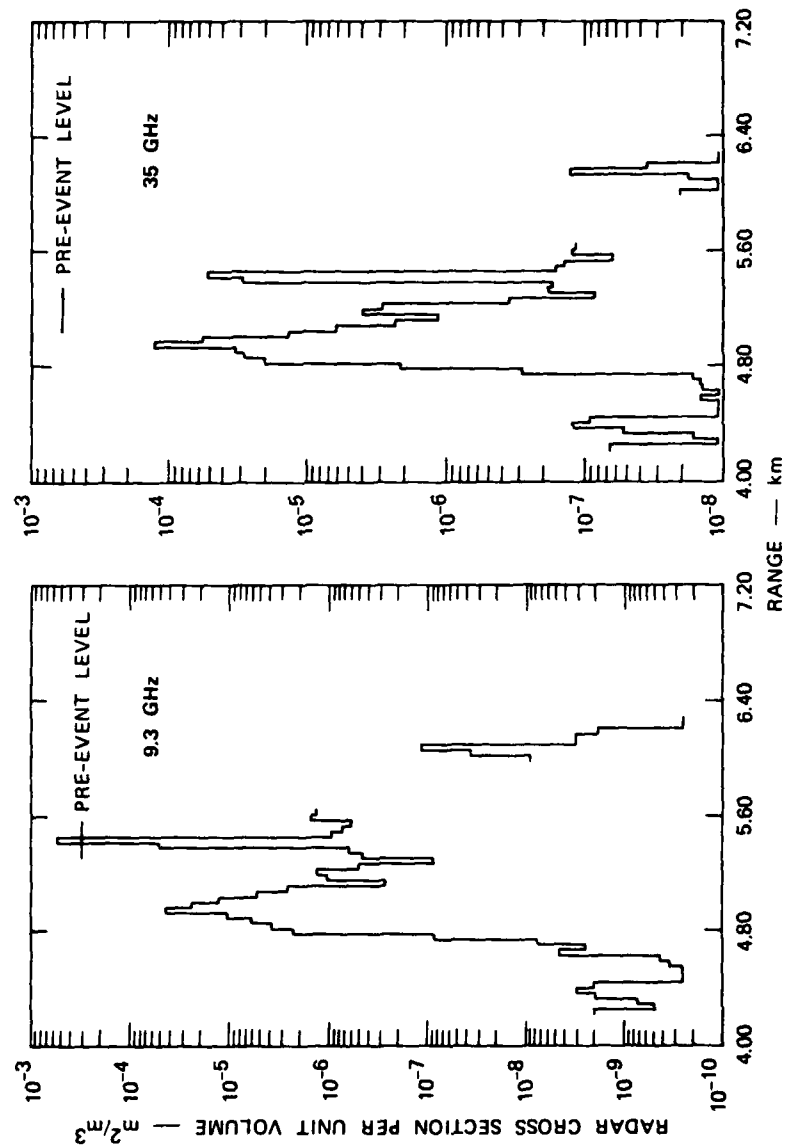


FIGURE 6 MBII-2 RADAR ECHOES AT 9.3 AND 35 GHz AT T + 4 s--AZIMUTH = 73.6°, ELEVATION = 0.4°

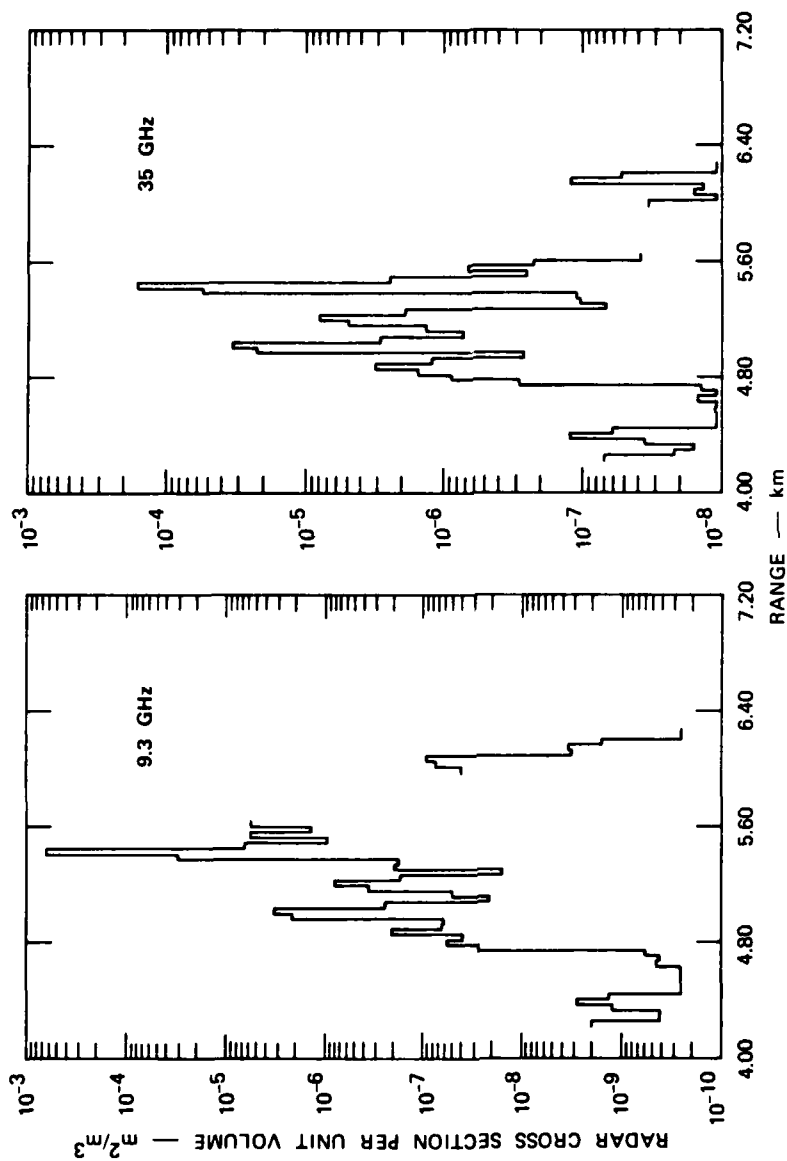


FIGURE 7 MBII-2 RADAR ECHOES AT 9.3 AND 35 GHz AT T + 8 s--AZIMUTH = 73.4° ,
ELEVATION = 0.6°

At $T + 8$ s, the radar beam was being moved from its original position to that required to illuminate the lower corner reflector. Although it was thought to have been well-anchored, the lower corner reflector was knocked over by the explosion. The cloud echoes had a structure similar to those at $T + 8$ s, although their strengths had decreased further. At $T + 13$ s, the beams were moved higher to illuminate the upper corner reflector because it had been occulted by the cloud. The triple structure of the echoes was still present at $T + 16$ s (Figure 8) with very abrupt changes in short distances, which indicates that little or no mixing had occurred.

By $T + 42$ s, however, it appears that most of the structure had dissipated, at least at the base of the cloud cap. Figure 9 shows the 9.3-GHz and 35-GHz echoes at that time, which corresponds to the bottom of one of the automatic vertical raster scans that were initiated at about $T + 30$ s. Similar echoes, with little structure, were seen at $T + 40$ s and $T + 44$ s, when the beams were directed at slightly higher parts of the dust cloud. However, at $T + 94$ s, when the radar was pointed high in the cloud, there was a great deal of structure.

Figure 10 summarizes the first 94 s of 9.3-GHz and 35-GHz expected polarization sense echoes. There was an initial rapid decrease in echo strength (and dust density) that lasted until about $T + 15$ s, followed by a slower decline. The initial decrease corresponds to the period of rapid fallout of most of the material lofted by the explosion. No corrections have been made for effects such as extinction and beam motion, however, so these results should be considered to be very preliminary.

We believed at first that no detectable echoes were obtained at 95 GHz. However, subsequent analysis revealed the definite presence of echoes at ranges corresponding to those giving maximum return at the longer wavelengths at early times. Figure 11 shows an example. Although statistical tests of significance need to be made, we believe that echoes can be seen as late as $T + 8$ s.

To aid in the planning for this experiment, a relatively simple model for scattering from dust clouds was developed. This model used an inverse-power-law expression for the particle-size distribution and the

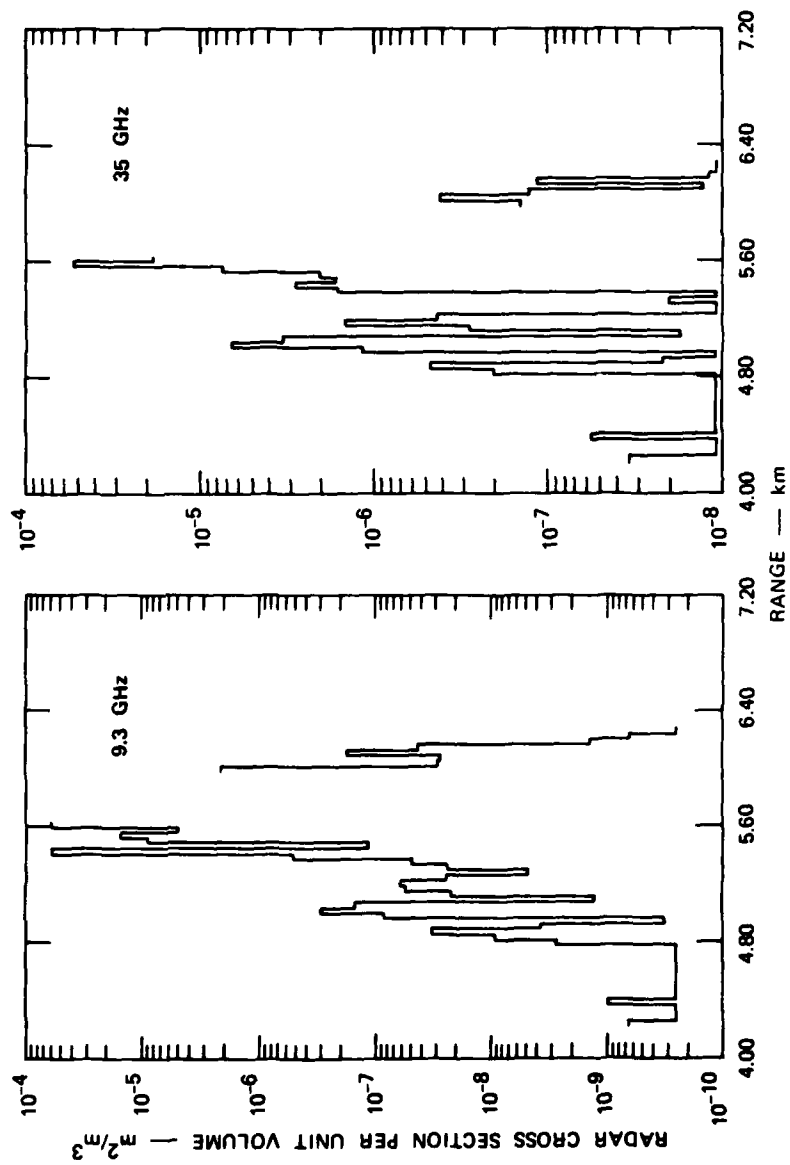


FIGURE 8 MBII-2 RADAR ECHOES AT 9.3 AND 35 GHz AT T + 16 s--AZIMUTH = 73.0°, ELEVATION = 1.4°

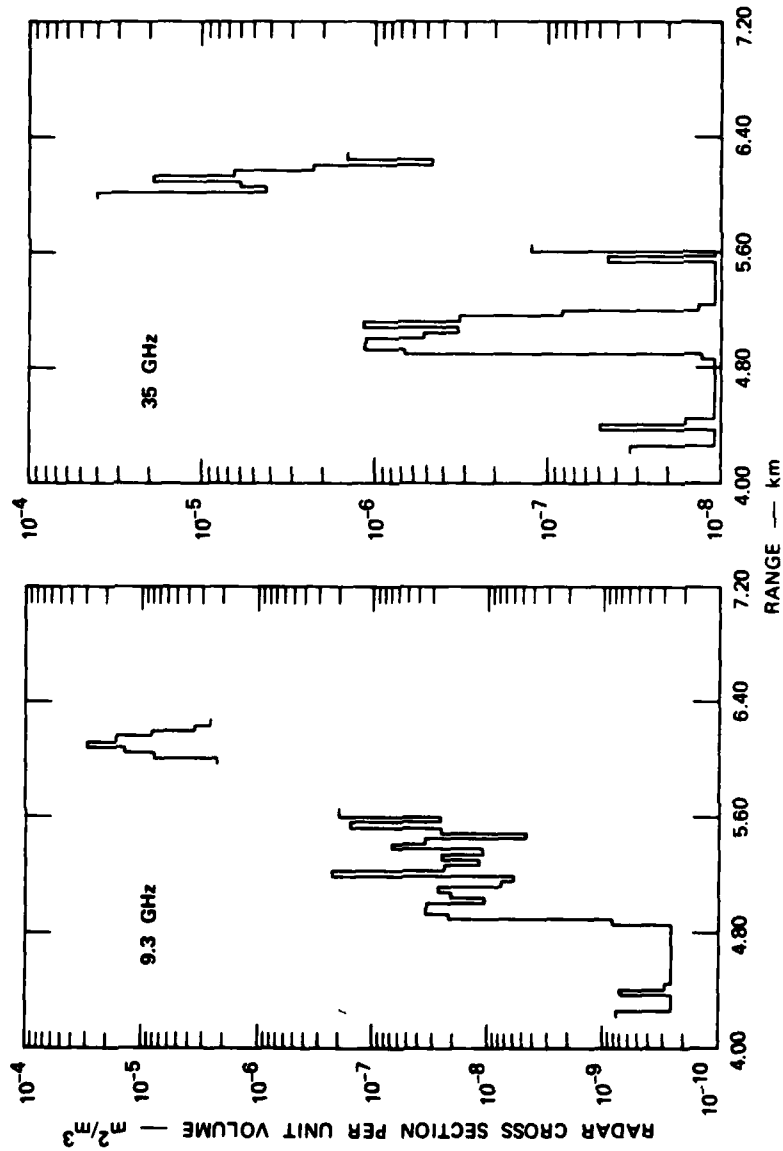


FIGURE 9 MBII-2 RADAR ECHOES AT 9.3 AND 35 GHz AT $T + 42$ s--AZIMUTH = 71.6° ,
ELEVATION = 1.8°

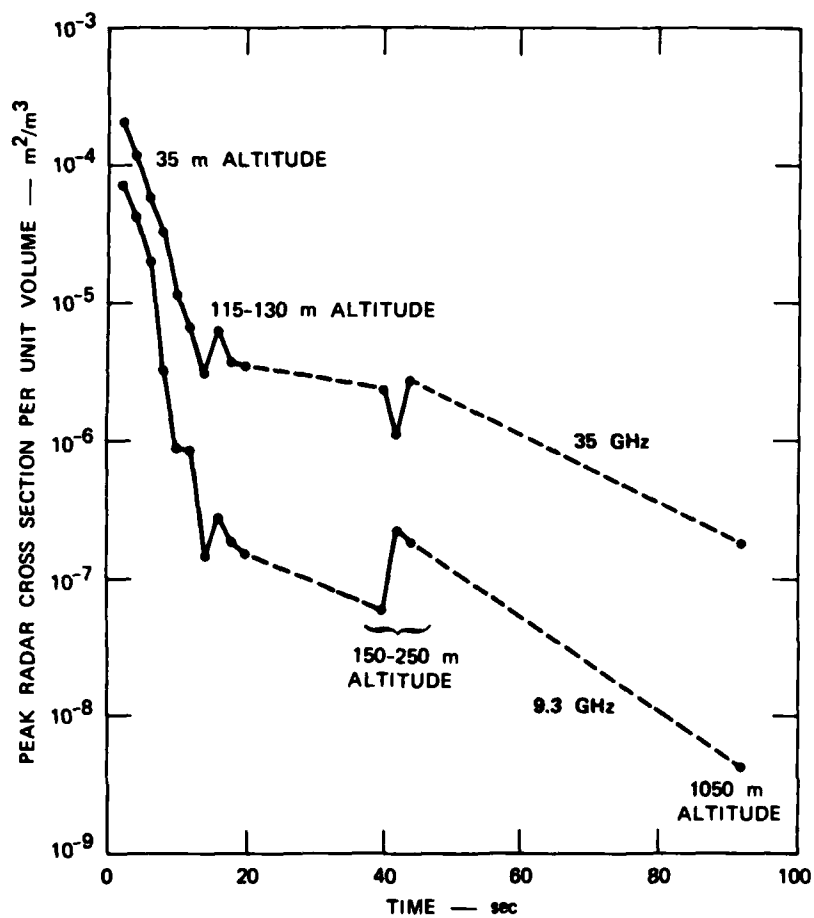


FIGURE 10 PEAK RADAR CROSS SECTION vs. TIME FOR MBII-2.
The altitudes shown are those of the beam center above ground zero.

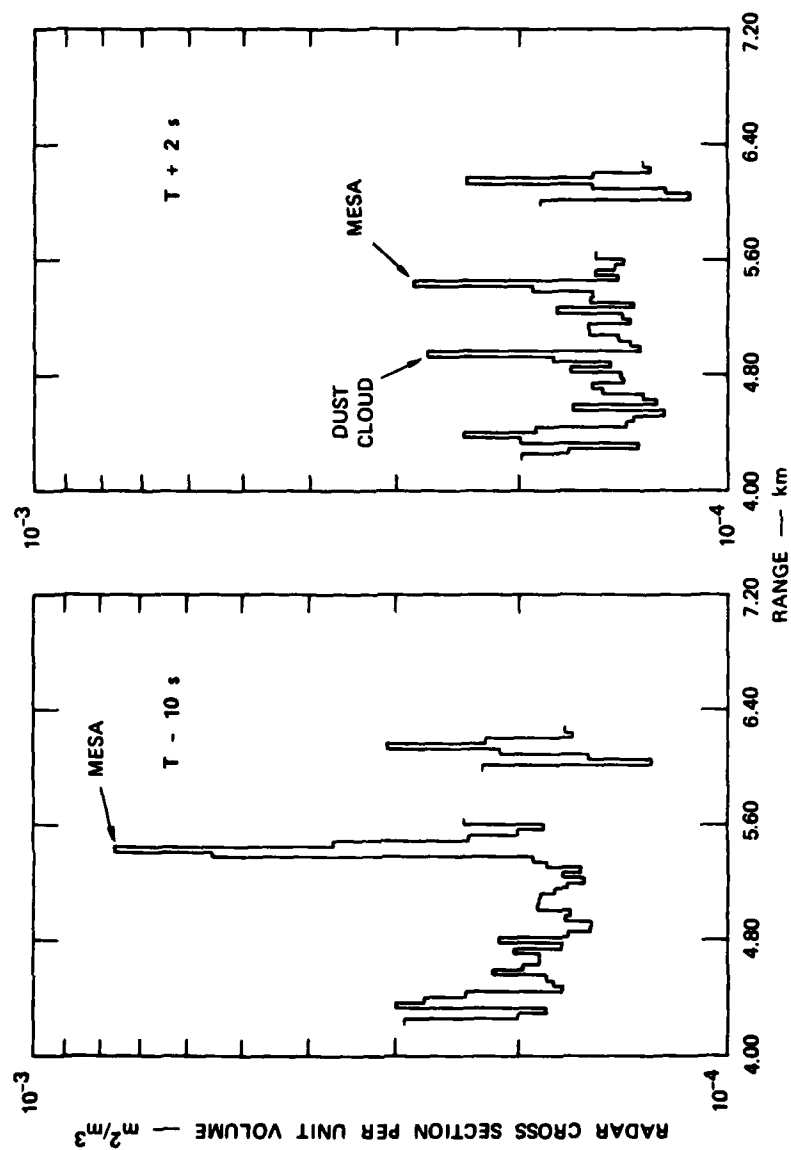


FIGURE 11 MBII-2 95-GHz RADAR ECHOES PRIOR TO AND IMMEDIATELY AFTER DETONATION

Rayleigh and geometric-optics asymptotes to describe the scattering from individual particles. Its primary purpose was to ensure that proper signal levels and dynamic range were provided. Initial dust densities were chosen by assuming that all the ejecta from a large crater was spread into a rather small volume. The power-law exponent, γ , of the particle-size distribution function was rather arbitrarily chosen, based on values commonly used. Figure 12(a) presents the results based on this model, along with some previous measurements at various times after detonation.

Figure 12(b) shows the MBII-2 results in the same format as Figure 12(a). In general, there is surprisingly good agreement, particularly with the frequency dependence and its temporal development--considering the many arbitrary aspects of the model. The inferred initial dust densities of perhaps 10 g/m^3 were several orders-of-magnitude less than expected, but the rate of decrease in inferred dust density was about that expected. The somewhat higher than expected inferred value of γ is consistent with what has been learned of the nature of the soil at the MISERS BLUFF II test site. That soil, a great deal of which has been most often described as "silt," contains a higher content of fine particles than is usually found. Again, we should caution that the results shown in Figure 12 are preliminary; because all of the conditions required by the model may not have been met, it is particularly dangerous to extract cloud-mass densities and values for γ from Figure 12 until more analysis has been completed. That analysis and complete data-reduction and evaluation efforts have just recently begun.

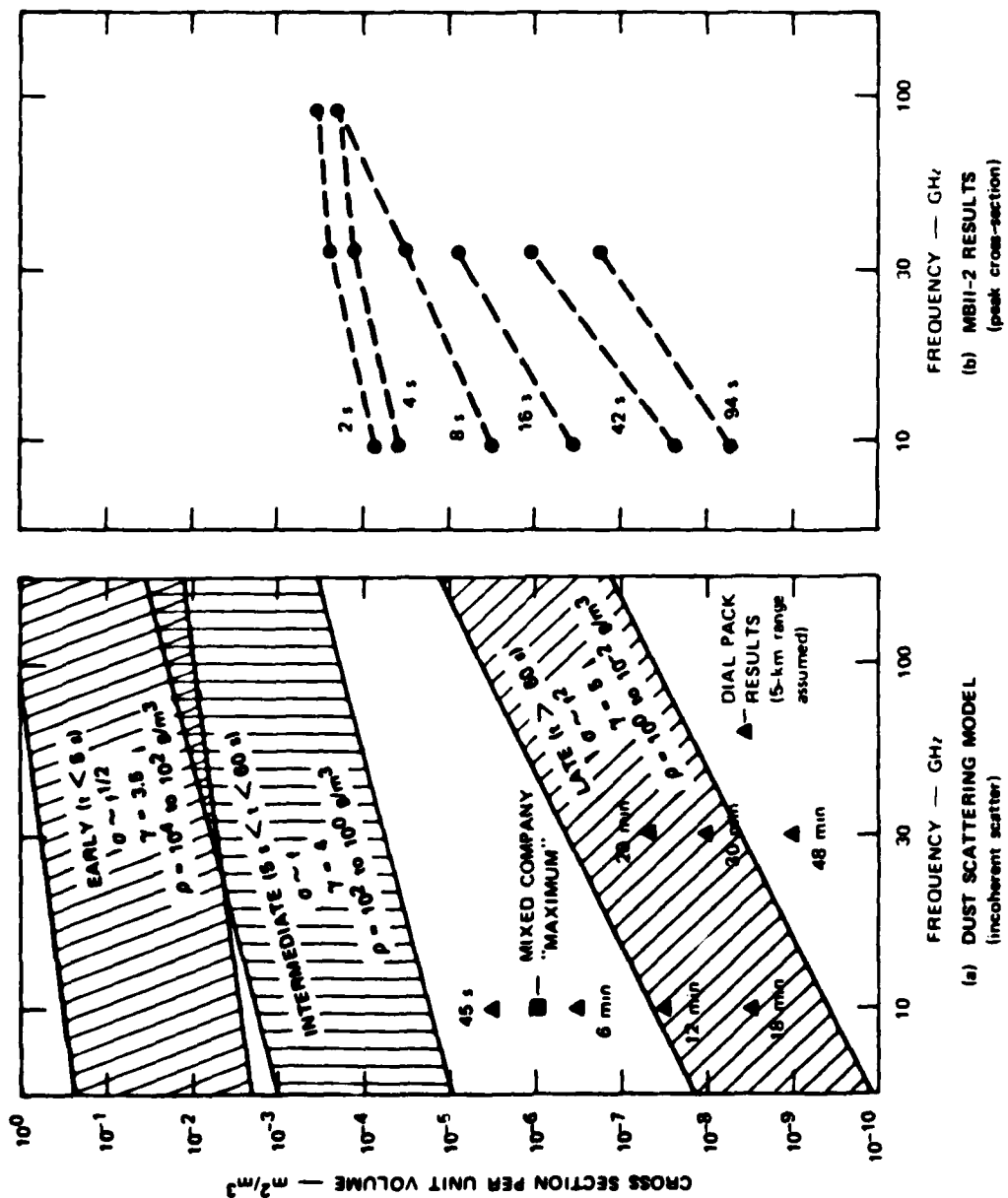


FIGURE 12 COMPARISON BETWEEN EXPERIMENT PLANNING MODEL AND MBII-2 RADAR CROSS-SECTION RESULTS

IV CONCLUSIONS

In spite of tight fielding schedules and a very hostile field environment, the two experiments described here were very successful. Nearly all of the objectives were met, and 75% to 90% of the possible data were collected. The data collected were of a very high quality and will undoubtedly increase our knowledge of the effects of dust clouds on electromagnetic propagation. The principal disappointments were the failure of the millimeter-wavelength coherent-transmission-experiment components and the low sensitivity of the 95-GHz radar.

Because of the different relative placements of the lines of sight relative to ground zero for the MBII tests, the UHF-EHF-Coherent-Transmission Experiment probed a different part of the cloud than during the DICE THROW Main Event. Furthermore, because the winds were more favorable than during DICE THROW, the MBII clouds remained in the lines-of-sight much longer. Thus the data base was greatly expanded.

The SHF/EHF-Scattering Experiment demonstrated that the dust cloud could be mapped with good resolution. We collected data from which dust-densities and size-distribution parameters and their temporal and spatial variations can be inferred. This was the first successful measurement, in our knowledge, of these parameters at early times when dust densities are very high. We also measured directly the effects of dust clouds on radar systems and their wavelength dependencies in the millimeter regime.

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